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Group Art Unit: 2175 MAR 1 1 2004

In re application of: Chang, et. al.

Examiner: Mizrahi, Diane D.

Serial No.: 09/801,605

Attorney Docket No.

Filed: March 8, 2001

AUS9-2000-0922-US1

Title: System and Method for Managing

IBM Corporation

File System Extended Attributes

Intellectual Property Law Dept. 11400 Burnet Road

Austin, Texas 78758

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I hereby certify that this correspondence was sent via facsimile to the United States Patent Office to telephone number (703) 872-9306 on March 11, 2004.

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

A. Restriction Election

In response to the Office Action having a mailing date of February 17, 2004, with a onemonth shortened statutory period for response set to expire on March 17, 2004, Applicants hereby elect Group I (Group I including claims 1-10 and 21-30) while reserving the right to traverse the restriction requirement. Applicants firmly believe that the restriction is improper under current Patent Office rules and guidelines.

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PATENT

No extension of time is believed to be necessary. If, however, an extension of time is required, the extension is requested, and the undersigned hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge any fees for this extension to IBM Corporation Deposit Account No. 09-0447.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the Applicants' attorney listed below if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining questions or issues related to this Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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